

## FRANCISCO VILLA RAIDS TERRITORY OF THE UNITED STATES WITH BAND OF 1500

## Columbus, N.M., Scene of Early Morning Attack; 17 Americans Killed; Invaders Suffer Heavily

Led by the Infamous "Lion of the North" Fifteen Hundred Mexicans Invade Border Town, Killing Many Inhabitants, Sacking the Stores and Property. United States Cavalrymen Distinguish Themselves in Close Encounter. Two Hours Necessary to Drive Mexicans Out of U. S. Troops Chase Them Into Chihuahua.

COLUMBUS, N. M., March 9.—Francisco Villa with 1500 men, raided the United States territory today. They attacked Columbus and killed at least sixteen Americans and fired many buildings before being driven back across the border. At least 250 United States Cavalrymen followed the Villa band into Mexico.

Reports from Colonel Slocum late today stated that Villa had made a stand fifteen miles south of the border where spirited fighting ensued.

An unarmed private was killed and a captain was wounded. A small detachment of troops under Majors Tompkins and Lindsay, fighting dismounted, made a determined stand against renewed Villa attacks. At last reports they were holding their ground.

The raid on American territory proved costly to Villa. Eighteen Mexican bandits, including Pablo Lopez, second in command, were gathered and burned before noon. The troopers reported an undetermined number of dead were still lying in the brush. They were led to the attack under the slogan of "death to Americans." The bandits fought with desperation.

Just before dawn they crept along the ditch, skirting the United States cavalry camp and rushed the sleeping town, firing heavily. The first volley brought the American troopers into almost instant action. While a portion of the raiders engaged the cavalry, others applied the torch, shooting American civilians venturing from the buildings.

Many civilians barricaded themselves in their homes and fired at the Mexicans as they darted through the streets. The fighting ended as suddenly as it began. Two hours after the first shot Villa buglers sounded retreat. The raiders fled in disorder, American troops closely following.

**LIGHTS ARE TARGETS**  
The lights in homes and public buildings became the targets of Villa snipers. Other bandits, creeping close to the American homes, enticed a number of civilians into the open with English spoken invitations. A number of fatalities are attributed to this ruse. Stores were looted and oil poured on frame structures while the matches were applied by still other bandits. The postoffice was raided and the furniture smashed. The looters only secured one registered package.

**UNDER GUARD**  
COLUMBUS, March 9.—The women and children remaining here are quartered in the school house and the army camps under guard.

**AMERICAN WOMAN RELEASED**  
Mrs. Maud Wright, an American, who said she was held captive by Villa for nine days and released in the midst of the fighting, said that on March 1 Villa announced his intention of attacking Columbus. He proceeded north under forced marches. His men, with scanty supplies of water and meat, suffered severely. Villa ruled by fear. His officers beat the men into line with their swords.

She said her husband, Edward, formerly of Houston, and Frank Hayden, a youth employed at the Las Bocas sawmill, were taken from the Wright Ranch March 1 and presumably killed. When forced to ride she said a bandit ordered her to give her baby to a Mexican family.

Mrs. Wright is cared for at the home of General Slocum. Up to yesterday she said Villa wore civilian clothes, a queer little straw hat, rode a mule, and just before the fight appeared clad in a uniform, on a handsome sorrel charger. She said Villa led nearly 1500 men upon the sleeping American town. Guards told her Villa had 3000 men and 6000 horses.

## THE CASUALTIES.

The American soldiers and civilians who were killed at Columbus were:  
\* A. L. RITCHE, hotel proprietor.  
\* Walton Walker, U. S. Customs rider.

\* Mrs. Milton James.  
\* J. S. Dean.  
\* C. C. Miller, druggist.  
\* An unidentified chauffeur.  
\* J. L. Moore, merchant.  
\* W. R. Walker, guest, Central hotel.  
\* Dr. Harry M. Hart.  
\* Marg A. Dodds.  
\* Joe Paresay, sergeant, machine gun troop.  
\* Frank T. Kendvall, Horse shoer, Troop K.  
\* Paul Simon, corporal.  
\* John Nievergelt, band sergeant.

\* Harry Wiswall, corporal, Troop K.  
\* Thomas Butler, private, Troop F. He was wounded in the fighting but died later in the day.  
\* The wounded: Lieut. C. C. Benson, troop G.  
\* Jesse P. Taylor, Troop F.  
\* Theodore Kalorke, Troop L.  
\* Michael Barmazel, machine gun Troop.  
\* John Yarbrough, Troop K.  
\* James Venner, Troop M.  
\* John Keogh, Troop G.

## AMERICAN CASUALTIES.

Casualties in the Thirteenth Cavalry were seven killed and five wounded. Villa's total losses are estimated at 100 killed and twice as many wounded. The American pursuit into Mexico ended about 2 o'clock. It is reported to have accounted for more than 75 Mexicans killed and wounded. The American losses on the Mexican side was one corporal killed when Villa threw out a heavy guard to engage the pursuers. Of the eight American civilians slain here, Charles de Witte Miller, Albuquerque, and Dr. H. J. Hart, of El Paso, were burned to death in the Commercial Hotel.

The body of Walton Walker, of Playas, N. M., who was shot with W. T. Ritchie, the proprietor of the hotel, was also incinerated. Mrs. M. James, shot and killed in the doorway of another hotel, falling across the body of C. C. Miller, who was driven from his drug store across the street. Her little sister escaped but her husband was wounded. Mrs. Ryan, wife of a captain of Troop E, had a narrow escape when her house was riddled with bullets. It was in line with a window facing the ditch from which Villa opened his attack. Bullets perforated her clothing on a chair.

Fred Griffin, private of Troop K, on guard at headquarters, opened fire on Mexicans attacking the quarters of Lieut. Lucas, commanding the machine gun troop of the Thirteenth Cavalry. He fell mortally wounded under a volley, but killed two Mexicans who to the side of the Ryan home. Mrs. Ryan ran, under fire, to an adobe garage. She was stopped by a Mexican who demanded where she was going. She said to get the motor car. She sat, unmolested, during the fight in the automobile.

Captain Rudolph Swyzer, wife and children ran from their house to the barn just as the Mexicans broke in the front door. The Mexicans looted the house and were just about to set fire to the barn when the American forces opened fire. Captain Swyzer joined his troop in time to participate in the battle. Villa dropped some personal papers. A note was found, evidently a transcript of an order issued just before

the attack which read "kill all Gringos."

## DESCRIPTION OF ATTACK.

There are about 500 Americans in Columbus and nearly as many Mexicans, many of whom are refugees, having fled in advance of Villa. Librado Marquez was placed under military guard charged with having directed the operations of the bandits and also of giving information to Villa through spies.

Lieut. Castelman, the officer of the day, was aroused by Griffin's shot. He was met at the door by a Mexican who fired at him pointblank, but missed. Castelman killed him and marched his troop to the town to protect the civilian men, women and children running the streets under fire of the Mexicans in the glare of the flames from the hotel and other buildings.

Castelman placed his men in front of the hotel, next door to the bank, and engaged the Mexicans, who, though greatly outnumbering his force, were driven westward. Lucas placed his men on the railroad track, supported by two machine guns and took the retreating Mexicans on the flank as they fled, practically all mounted, southward.

Colonel Slocum left his quarters within ten minutes after the first shot and reached the Hoover hotel as the Mexicans approached. A bullet knocked a revolver from his hand. As the Villa forces retreated they stopped at the ranch of J. J. Moore, killed him, wounded his wife, and looted the place. Moore was taken from his house and shot on the doorstep. Mrs. Moore was brought here, painfully, thought not seriously wounded in the thigh.

## SPIES DIRECT ATTACK.

Villa, according to reliable information obtained by Colonel Slocum, attacked with 1500 men, leaving 100 across the border. Twenty of his officers were sent here Tuesday to spy and learned that five American cavalry troops with headquarters here were scattered for miles along the border. Assured by the spies of certain aid to be given by the Mexican residents, Villa started his advance. The first intimation of approach was given by Private Griffin, the sentry, who gave his life to give the alarm by firing on the bandits.

## BODIES BURNED.

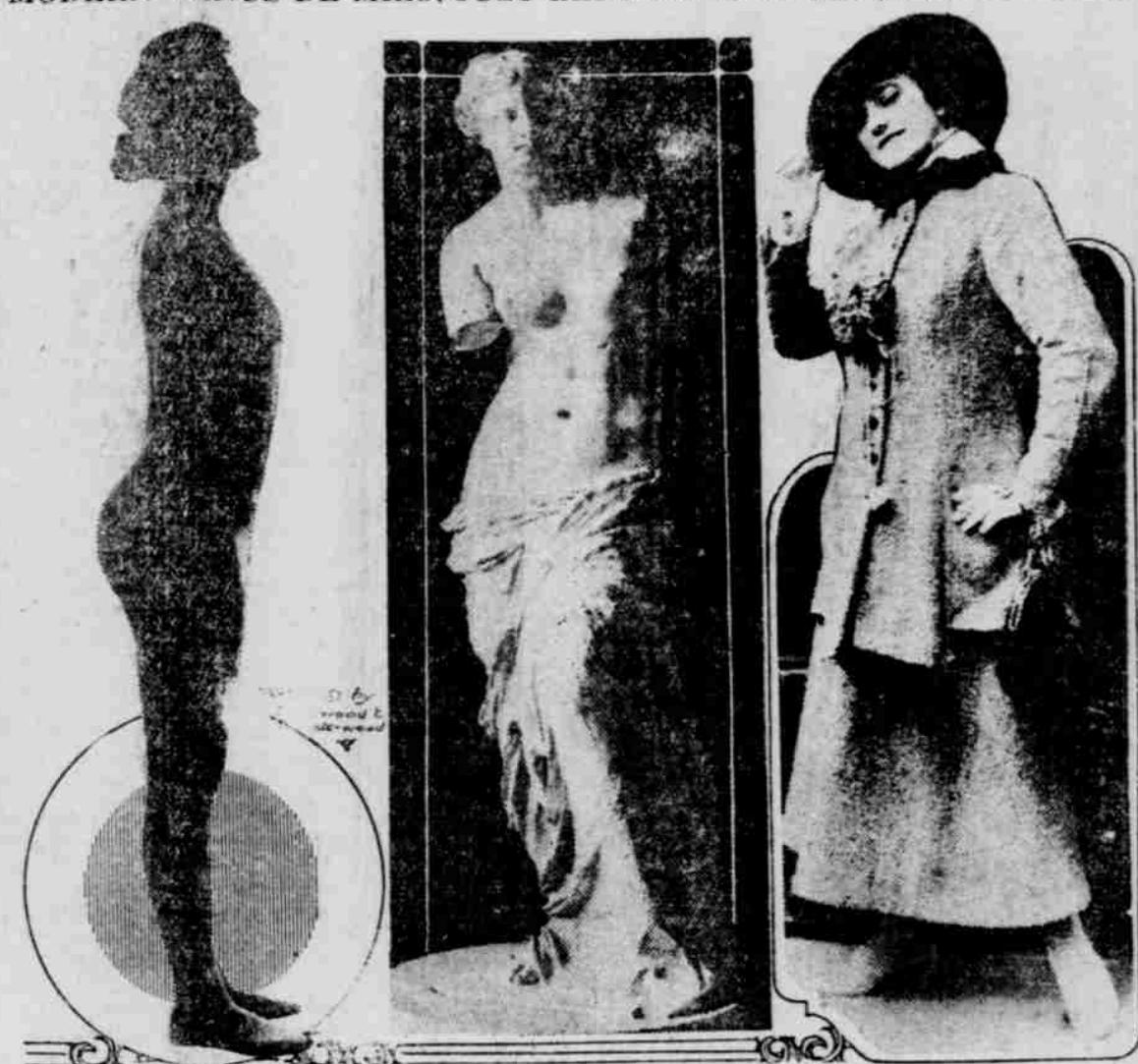
Twenty seven bodies of Mexicans were burned. The wounded were treated in the hospital of the Thirteenth Cavalry. Army surgeons were assisted by women nurses. Some of the Villa wounded are mere boys. Army officers bore testimony that residents pointed out to the bandits houses occupied by Americans. As a result Colonel Slocum ordered the troops to search the Mexican houses and deprive everyone of arms on the pain of death for refusal to give them up.

EL PASO, March 9. (Special)—An unconfirmed report was received at Fort Bliss tonight that a detachment of Villa's scattered band had recrossed the border near Gibson's Ranch and had surrounded a detachment of the Seventh Cavalry, stationed at this ranch, which is near Hachita, N. M. There is no wire into Hachita and it has been impossible for Gen. Pershing to verify the report.

Harry Davis, an El Paso boy, who was a member of the local militia company, was added to the list of killed tonight, having been in the running fight with the Villa forces. The deaths of Dr. Harry M. Hart and Jose Perreyer have been confirmed here. One of Villa's generals was killed. Corporal Mason of Maj. Tompkins' command hitting him when Maj. Tompkins ordered him shot.

Troops are being brought from Chihuahua City to Juarez tonight to go in pursuit of Villa. This (Continued on Page 3)

MODERN VENUS DE MILO. JUST LIKE ANCIENT ONE, FOUND IN U. S.



Miss Raymond as she appeared before the judges; Venus de Milo; Miss Raymond in street costume.  
American sculptors have long been searching for the ideal American girl who would "measure up" favorably with the ancient Greek ideal of womanhood—the famous Venus de Milo. At last she has been found. Her name is Peg Raymond, and her measurements are those of Venus de Milo in every particular.

## SOLDIERS MOVE FROM FORT DOUGLAS

Residents of Smelter Town Organize Automobile Fleet for Use of Army. Calles "Has Everything in Hand."

DOUGLAS, March 9.—With United States troops stationed along the border east of here entrenching to repel a possible night attack of Mexican bandits and other infantrymen entraining to move eastward on guard duty along the New Mexican border, the situation assumed a warlike aspect. A battalion of the Eleventh Infantry departed by special train for Hachita, New Mexico, for border guard duty.

Two companies of the Sixth Infantry are on the way to San Bernardino, eighteen miles east. A volunteer automobile company was formed by citizens and a large number of machines moved to the disposal of army officers placing troops to any point. General Calles, military governor of Sonora, arrived in Agua Prieta to personally supervise the campaign against Villa. He said: "We have plenty of troops to protect Sonora and the border mining camps. I will remain until Villa is killed or captured or driven to some other part of Mexico."

## BORDER HEAVILY PATROLLED

COLUMBUS, March 9.—American cavalry patrols, New Mexico militiamen, cowboys and civilians are on the alert against another surprise attack by Villa. Heavy guards patrol Columbus and vicinity. The main body of the bandits is thought to have retreated to the Mexican hills, presumably making for the Boca Grande River, the nearest water. The possibility of another attack is admitted by the military authorities.

Villa is believed to have sent the fake telegram yesterday in the name of the manager of the Palomas Cattle Company, saying that Villa had reached the Nogales Ranch, Chihuahua, sixty miles southwest of Columbus and that Villa was at the ranch house. The message arrived at four in the afternoon. About that time his men, refreshed and full of stolen cattle, had begun a march to attack Columbus. That the town was not taken, sacked and the inhabitants slaughtered, is attributed to the fact that his men served only through fear and would not stand under the fire of the American troops.

## RIGID TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT.

Warren District county officers, aided by the police of the city of Bisbee, will rigidly enforce the traffic laws regarding lights. This applies particularly to the absence of tail lights on an automobile. Owing to the constant complaint the officers intend to see, more particularly, from this time on that all the sections of state laws, regarding the driving of automobiles, are enforced.

## TRAINMEN WILL ASK FOR EIGHT HOUR DAY

Result of Referendum Vote Among Trainmen of the Country is Greatly in Favor of Demands On R. R.'s.

CHICAGO, March 9.—It is officially announced the vote of 400,000 engineers, firemen and trainmen of American railroads overwhelmingly favored the authorizing of the union heads to negotiate with the railroads for an eight hour day.

Union leaders stated the movement with its object of obtaining shorter hours would be carried forward in regular course. They said the present vote had no significance as the indication was that the men desired the matter should be pressed to a conclusion. The report has significance as the strike vote is erroneous and misleading, as stated. The demands will be presented in a few days. The railroads have thirty days in which to reply. The railroads have made it plain they intend to fight the proposed conditions.

## INSTRUCTIONS WANTED.

WASHINGTON, March 9.—The U. S. Government has asked Great Britain for a copy of the confidential instructions to commanders of British merchant vessels which Germany claims prove that merchantmen armed ostensibly for defensive purposes have orders to act offensively against German and Austrian submarines. It is not considered likely that there will be further negotiations with Germany on this subject until the reply of England is received.

## PORTUGAL NOW IN EUROPEAN STRUGGLE

Germany Declares War as Result of Series of Alleged Breaches of Neutrality by Portuguese.

LONDON, March 9.—Germany has declared war with Portugal. Thus thirteen countries are engaged in the international struggle. The declaration was made chiefly on account of the recent seizure of German merchantmen interned in Portuguese ports. A long series of alleged breaches of neutrality by Portugal also proved factors. Fighting between the French and Germans north of Verdun and around Douaumont village Vaux and Fort Vaux, was particularly violent, and according to French reports German attacks went for naught. The Germans were thrown forward in a solid formation against Fort Vaux, which the latest German report said had been captured, but the French say they drove back the enemy with "enormous losses."

Northeast of this fort the Germans are said to have assaulted but repulsed with heavy casualties. West of the Meuse, midway between Bethincourt and the river, the French continued their offensive in Corbeaux Wood, and are officially reported to have driven the Germans in almost all of that point of the salient.

In the east Russians at various points have taken the offensive against German positions, but Berlin declares they met no success. Russians on the Black Sea coast continue to press Turkey's principal port in Trebizond and also are making progress against the Ottoman positions in the Persian sector. The Russian Foreign Office declines that Turkey has made peace proposals.

## MILLER FORMER GOVERNOR.

ALBUQUERQUE, N. M., March 9.—Charles Miller, a victim of Villa, formerly was territorial governor of New Mexico.

## REPUBLICANS IN CONFERENCE.

WASHINGTON, March 9.—Republican senators and representatives at a conference in the House chamber agreed on the membership of the 1916 Congressional campaign committee and discussed informally the steps to be taken to regain control of Congress at the November elections.

## WASHINGTON IS BEHIND SLOCUM'S ACTION

Hopes Carranza Won't Object to Presence of American Troops; Official Circles Fail to Disguise Satisfaction.

## FORMAL INVASION WILL BE OPPOSED

Patrols Prohibited from Crossing Border Under Any Circumstances; Border Well Manned by Troops.

WASHINGTON, March 9.—Washington stands squarely behind Colonel Slocum in sending his cavalrymen into Mexico in pursuit of the Villa outlaws who raided Columbus. Secretary Lansing informed the de facto government through Ambassador Designate Arredondo, that he trusted no objection would be made to the action of the American troops. No orders were issued for return of the soldiers and probably none will be issued for the present.

Shocked indignation at news of the outrage succeeded undisguised satisfaction in official and congressional circles that, after three years of patient forbearance, United States troops actually were on Mexican soil to avenge the death of their comrades and bring to justice the outlaws whose depredations have terrorized Americans on both sides of the border. Reports of the American troops' action tonight, probably fifteen miles south of the border against a much larger force of bandits were heard with anxious interest in official circles.

It is not considered in administration circles that the pursuit in any sense constituted an invasion of Mexico which policy the administration has opposed and will continue to oppose. There is normally no authority for the presence of American troops in Mexico. Patrols are under orders not to cross in any consideration. If provocation is not so great officers responsible will face a courtmartial. Suggestions that Colonel Slocum face a courtmartial were scouted by some officials but at the War Department they were not discussed.

More than 4,000 cavalry and a battalion of the Fourth Mountain Artillery with twelve guns are in the territory between Douglas and El Paso. They can be assembled at any point within twenty-four hours. In the same territory are eight regiments of infantry, the Sixth Field Artillery and a battalion of the Fourth Artillery, making an additional force of approximately 8,000 infantry and thirty-six field and mountain guns which could be gathered at Columbus in two days.

Administration leaders fear the outbreak of critics of the President's Mexican policy in Congress tomorrow. Senator Fall of New Mexico, long an ardent supporter of intervention, announced his purpose of introducing a resolution to provide for the recruiting of 500,000 volunteers to intervene in Mexico at the earliest moment. It is known other senators, including Gallinger, have in contemplation resolutions in respect to aggressive action toward Mexico.

## NO ORDERS RECEIVED

SAN FRANCISCO, March 9.—Major General Bell, commanding the western department, said no orders had been received to send troops to Mexico. He did not expect any. The only organization now in San Francisco is the coast artillery. Bell said it would not be moved from there.

The mobile troops available, Bell said, include one regiment and two battalions of infantry in Washington, a regiment of cavalry at Monterey, San Diego and Calexico. The cavalry and infantry will be immediately available, he said, but in his opinion would not be called.